

JACKIE SWIGART
SECRETARY



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JOHN Y. BROWN, JR.
GOVERNOR

John Brown

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
DEPARTMENT FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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Site:	<i>A.L. Taylor</i>
Break:	<i>13.1</i>
Other:	

July 15, 1980

Mr. Arthur Hilbers
Ms. Mary Sublett
Brooks Citizens Council
31 Colt Lane
Brooks, Kentucky 40109

Dear Mr. Hilbers & Ms. Sublett:

At Governor Brown's request, I am responding to your letter of June 28, 1980, regarding the "Valley of the Drums." I share with the citizens of the Brooks community the goal of the complete cleanup of the "Valley of the Drums." I assure you that the Department for Natural Resources and Environmental Protection does not consider current efforts by the five Louisville companies to be the end of the cleanup action. Rather, we view this as a positive first step toward our shared goal. Jack A. Wilson, Commissioner of our Bureau of Environmental Protection, has at my direction given special attention to this matter. He will continue to work to identify other possible responsible companies and negotiate further cleanup efforts. He will also pursue other alternatives and cleanup plans.

I, too, am concerned about nearby residents and want to assure them the safest possible environment in which to live. Fortunately, the "Valley of the Drums" does not contain the same kind of extremely dangerous toxic waste as does the Love Canal to which you referred and thus there is less of a health threat. Nevertheless, the waste is hazardous and should be removed. As you are probably aware, in addition to the active cleanup efforts, a collection and treatment system has been installed to assure that wastes do not leave the site, thus insuring minimal external environmental impact.

Thank you for your letter. I assure you that I will make every effort to pursue cleanup of the Valley of the Drums.

Sincerely,

Jackie Swigart
Jackie Swigart
Secretary



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